

Farmington City Council Retreat
Community Center Basement, 120 South Main, Farmington
February 9, 2007

Present: Mayor Scott C. Harbertson, Council Members David Hale, Paula Alder, Larry Haugen, Sid Young and Rick Dutson; City Manager Max Forbush, Keith Johnson, Finance Director, Larry Gregory, Fire Chief, Wayne Hansen, Police Chief, Viola Kinney, Leisure Services Director, David Petersen, Community Development Director, Walt Hokanson, Public Works Director, Paul Hirst, City Engineer, and Margy Lomax, City Recorder.

Mayor Harbertson welcomed everyone to the retreat at 4:40 p.m. He briefly reviewed a Leadership Conference he, David Hale, Keith Johnson and Max Forbush had recently attended in Asheville, North Carolina. He shared ideas they had learned on “Good to Great” Leadership Principles and the “Politics of Hope” – using out-come oriented leadership versus problem-oriented leadership.

Keith Johnson and Max Forbush then presented a video entitled “Deep Dive” illustrating new techniques and procedures to achieve out-come oriented leadership. Mr. Forbush stated that the hope is to take these type of principles and apply them to City leadership.

Mayor Harbertson reviewed some of the “Good to Great” Leadership Principles and “keys to success” in creating and sustaining a “Good to Great” City as had been presented at the Conference. Some of the keys are: (1) create and keep the vision – be patient; (2) take advantage of natural connections/be inclusive; (3) be focused – build on the community’s strengths; (4) promote collaboration with those outside of the City’s boundaries; (5) citizen input; (6) cultivate next generation leaders; (7) select the right people for the right positions; and (8) communicate positively and visually.

Mr. Forbush then reported to the Mayor and Council that he had met with the executive staff earlier in the day and they had reviewed the Strategic Plan from last year’s City Council Retreat and had transferred those items which had not been completed into this year’s “Visioning for the Future/Strategic Plan”. He said more work needs to be done on it to get it down to an itemized list. It needs to be refined with completion dates and accountability assignments made on each item to executive staff members. He asked what the City Council would like done with the final document – if it should be published into a brochure-type document and be made available to citizens; if it should be placed on the website for review by citizens; or what disposition the City Council would like to make of it. He said if it were published and given to the citizens, the citizens would hold the City accountable for those things published in it. He wondered if the date of 2007-2012 should be placed on the Strategic Plan to give it a time limit.

Mr. Forbush then reviewed the six visioning statements as had been discussed earlier by the executive staff which are:

1. Develop a quality, unique, diversified and stable tax base to increase City revenues and improve service availability to residents.
2. Preserve and Enhance Historic Ambience of Downtown as a Community Hub/“Gathering Place” (1st North to 1st South, 1st East to 1st West)
3. Promote Historic Preservation in “Old Farmington” and Elsewhere
4. Enhance Farmington’s Sense of Community & Friendliness
5. Foster and Promote “Great” City Government
6. Provide for Future City Facilities, Equipment, & Resources

Discussion was then held with all present reviewing the first three statements as listed above, refining the statements and adding additional goals to them as they felt were necessary. Discussion continued until 6:30 p.m. when the meeting was adjourned so Council Members and staff could go and pick up their spouses to return at 7:00 p.m. for a catered dinner and social. Further discussion on the remaining three visioning statements was scheduled to continue at the City Hall at 130 North Main on Saturday morning, February 10, at 7:35 a.m.

Saturday, February 10, 7:30 a.m. - City Hall, 130 North Main Street

Present: Mayor Scott C. Harbertson, Council Members David Hale, Paula Alder, Larry Haugen, Sid Young and Rick Dutson; City Manager Max Forbush, Keith Johnson, Larry Gregory, Wayne Hansen, Viola Kinney, David Petersen, and Walt Hokanson. Paul Hirst, City Engineer, was also in attendance.

After breakfast, those in attendance reviewed and modified the goals under the three remaining Visioning Statements.

At approximately 10:30 a.m., Fire Battalion Chief Joe Walls joined the group and conducted 1 ½ hours of training regarding the National Incident Command System (NIMS).

The meeting then adjourned at 12:00 o’clock noon.

Margy Lomax
City Recorder